

OFFICE OF THE  
SOUTH CHURCH,  
(Congregational).

ARTHUR DIETRICK, Minister,  
Residence, 20 Chestnut St.

PEABODY, MASS., 11-21-06

THE THIRD MONTHLY REPORT OF THE PASTOR TO THE CHURCH CABINET

Season of 1906-7

Presented at the third cabinet meeting on Nov. 21.

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Dear Friends:-

The three weeks which have elapsed since our last meeting have been unusually busy. Almost every day the church has been the scene of one or more meetings, and a continual center of activity. During this time the pastor has prepared and delivered six sermons and one public address; made seven pastoral calls on the aged and infirm; written 28 pastoral letters; attended 25 meetings of various sorts in an official capacity; and conducted one funeral.

At the November communion there were three accessions to our membership, thus making a total membership of 272. Two of the three new members were adult men, and the third candidate was the wife of one thus adding a new family entire to our rolls.

A review of our activities for the past three weeks reveals the following noteworthy incidents from the pastor's standpoint: Both the young people's society and the Sunday school have held socials, one of which might better have been held another month. An effort to increase the interest and effectiveness of public singing at our services has been made by the introduction thru the music committee of one hundred copies of a Christmas Carol ("Ring the merry Christmas bells" by Victor Baier) which is being prepared for use by the congregation at the approaching Christmas service.







A steady increase of attendance at the stated services of the church is an encouraging feature of the work. The vestry is crowded on Sunday evenings and some are obliged to occupy chairs in the parlor adjoining. The increased attendance upon the regular communion services suggests to the pastor the advisability of electing two more deacons and the purchase of two additional trays and plates for the distribution of the elements. With this addition the service would be much improved as the period required for the distribution would be materially shortened - a consideration of especial value in the distribution of the wine when the cups are retained in the hand until all are served.

The pastor appreciates the fact that every member of this committee was present at the last meeting, and that the written reports from all departments were forthcoming. Tho it may seem to some a matter of trivial importance, yet attention to the details of the work as revealed in this gathering by the excellent reports presented will inevitably increase the effectiveness of our church work.

A union thanksgiving service of the congregational, methodist, baptist, episcopal, unitarian, universalist, and pentecostal churches will be held in our church at 5 o'clock on Thanksgiving afternoon. It is a duty as well as a privilege to attend this service, and the members of the cabinet are earnestly requested to urge upon our people the importance of responding to the invitation to hold a great union praise service. A chorus of twentyfive or thirty voices from all the churches under the direction of your pastor will render Stainer's "Ye shall dwell in the land". The entire body of clergymen will be present on the platform and assist in conducting the service. Let us for this brief hour remember our obligation to the God of Our Fathers whom also we worship.

A sunday school teachers course of eight lessons preparatory







to the international lessons for 1907 has been projected by the pastor, and the first meeting is called for Friday evening of this week.

Two choral services are planned for Sunday evenings in December and January. The one in December will be held on the 16th and will consist of a study in "Hymns of Conflict" a large number of which will be sung on the program. Miss Law, a pianist of exceptional ability will furnish special music and play the accompaniments.

Before the close of the meeting tonight the pastor would like to have the cabinet decide whether to hold the second service on Christmas Sunday; and also make definite arrangements for the proper conduct of the annual meeting of the church.

The pastor desires to acknowledge his appreciation of the help received from Mr. Chandler Foster in the printing of the bulletin for the board in front of the church, and to Miss Grace Cook for assistance in the office. If several of our young people would agree to work for the church an hour or so each week, a great burden might be lifted from the pastor's shoulders and his hands freed for other important duties.

Respectfully submitted

Arthur Dietrich

Pastor.



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*William F. Foster*

Pastor.